

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 ACDA-05 OMB-01 IO-11 CU-02

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R 031108Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9485

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 4878

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PGOV TH

SUBJECT: BOMBING OF VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

1. TWO GUNMEN DETONATED AT LEAST ONE BOMB AT THE RAMA VI ENGINEERING SCHOOL AT APPROXIMATELY 6:00 A.M.ON MARCH 3. THREE STUDENTS WERE KILLED INSTANTLY AND AT LEAST TWO OTHER PEOPLE HAVE DIED OF WOUNDS. AT LEAST SOME OF THE KILLED AND WOUNDED HAD BEEN SLEEPING OVERNIGHT IN THE BOMBED BUILDING. THE BOMBING APPEARED TO BE PROFESSIONAL AND WELL PLANNED. THE TWO GUNMEN ESCAPED IN A WAITING MAZDA SEDAN.

2. THE MARCH 3 BANGKOK WORLD REPORTED THAT ONE OF THE GUNMEN ANNOUNCED, "THIS WILL BE A LESSON FOR THE LEFTISTS", IMMEDIATELY BEFORE SETTING OFF THE EXPLOSION WITH A PLUNGER DETONATOR, AND OTHER CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE INDICATES A POLITICAL MOTIVATION FOR THE BOMBING. RAMA VI IS OWNED BY A THAI LEFTIST NAMED DILOKCHAI SUNATWANITKUN, WHO HELPED ORGANIZE A LEFT WING VOCATIONAL STUDENTS ORGANIZATION AT THE SCHOOL CALLED THE VOCATIONAL FRONT FOR THE PEOPLE (VFP). IT HAS TIES WITH THE NATIONAL STUDENT CENTER OF THAILAND (NSCT) AND IS ANTAGONISTIC TOWARDS CONSERVATIVE AND RIGHT WING
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VOCATIONAL STUDENTS GROUPS. DILOKCHAI WAS SHOT AND

SERIOUSLY WOUNDED OCTOBER 19, 1975, IN AN UNSUCCESSFUL ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT. AT THE TIME NEWSPAPERS REPORTED THAT THE INTERNAL OPERATIONS SECURITY COMMAND (ISOC) SUSPECTED DILOKCHAI OF BEING A SOVIET AGENT, AND DILOKCHAI INTURN ACCUSED ISOC OF HIRING THE GUNMAN WHO SHOT HIM. DILOKCHAI'S VOCATIONAL STUDENTS WERE INVOLVED IN THE INCIDENTS IN AUGUST, 1975, WHICH RESULTED IN THE BOMBING OF THAMMASET UNIVERSITY BY RED GAUR ENEMIES OF THE VFP (RIGHT WING VOCATIONAL STUDENTS CLAIMED MEMBERS OF THE VFP KILLED ONE OF THEIR COMRADES DURING AN NSCT DEMONSTRATION AT THAMMASAT).

3. THE BOMBING OF RAMA VI SCHOOL, FOLLOWING SO CLOSELY ON THE HEELS OF THE ASSASSINATION OF SOCIALIST PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL DR. BUNSANONG BUNYOTHAYAN, INDICATES THAT RIGHTIST ELEMENTS WILL CONTINUE ATTEMPTING TO INTIMIDATE THE POLITICAL LEFT.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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